

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

Charity number 1039935

A company limited by guarantee number 02909605

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**



# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO**

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors**

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Donna Pankhurst	Chair	Resigned 29 August 2025
Linzi Tate		Resigned 6 July 2024
Lauren Huxley		
Gillian Morley		
Madeleine Thorne		Resigned 3 September 2024
Inderjeet Bell		
Job Kabamba		
<b>Charity number</b>	1039935	Registered in England and Wales
<b>Company number</b>	02909605	Registered in England and Wales
<b>Registered and principal address</b>	<b>Bankers</b>	
Lawrence Batley Theatre	HSBC Bank Plc	Monmouthshire Building Society
Queen Street	Leeds University	Monmouthshire House
Huddersfield	27 Blenheim Terrace	John Frost Square
HD1 2SP	Woodhouse Lane	Newport
	Leeds University	South Wales NP20 1PX

### **Independent examiner**

Simon Bostrom FCIE

### **West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO**

Stringer House  
34 Lupton Street  
Leeds  
LS10 2QW

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 17 March 1994. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolution on 24 June 1994 and amended on 4 January 2019 and 23 July 2020. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

### **Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees**

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Objectives and activities**

#### **The charity's objects**

To advance the education of children and young people in the appreciation and practice of the arts, in particular theatre, drama and the performing arts.

#### **The charity's main activities**

The usual activity of Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah is to create original theatre performances and drama workshops primarily for and with children and young people, but also their teachers and families, with the purpose of engaging them in learning about the art form, themselves and the world. The charity carries out this work in schools, community settings and theatre venues.

#### **Public benefit statement**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the advancement of education of children and young people and the appreciation and practice of the arts.

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Introduction**

##### **Hidden Garden**

The show played 26 times across the North of England to a total audience of 1,296 in a mixture of conventional venues and community spaces, some with an history of arts inclusion and some without. The shows played to audiences aged 4 through to 9 (mostly with accompanying adults) and were well received. The original plan was to have a considerable amount of community support running alongside the performance, but we were unsuccessful in a bid to The National Lottery to fund this, which led to Trees For Cities being able to deliver this work and it cost the production audiences and a deeper engagement with the subject matter. This came at particular cost in places like Burnley Downtown Community Pantry and Hoole Community Centre but we are still very glad we played in areas with very little arts infrastructure or provision.

The quality of the final show was excellent which is, in no small part, to the great credit of the production team. There were significant casting issues (with an actor having to be replaced very late in the project) and it became obvious that the production was too big for the infrastructure of the current company to be able to cope with effectively. This was exacerbated by the Executive Creative Producer having significant health issues at the same time as the Producer attached to the show leaving to take up another job. This meant that already busy people became even more busy, that it had no effect on what was shown says a great deal about their professionalism.

##### **Bored on the Ward (formerly Heartbeats)**

By the end of the financial year this project was about to begin its beta testing stage, which demonstrates just how hard the team of Matthew Bellwood (story), Nick Lewis and James Mabbutt (music), Chadni Soren (artist), Jack Sibley (lead developer), Tim Woodson (UI designer), Lydia Cotteril (technologist) have pushed the development forward. They have, further, been working closely with Sophie Jo Peel of South West Yorkshire NHS Trust and the Calderdale Hospital's Estates Team to isolate places for installation of artwork relating to the digital game and exploring the best ways of mounting said artwork.

Bored on the Ward is funded by Youth Music and was developed to alleviate boredom amongst children and young people who are either in regular outpatient care or on medium to long stays in hospital. Developed alongside children and young people in Calderdale Hospital, in particular the youth epilepsy group, the project was created through group play, music making and storytelling activity. The digital game is loosely framed around the design of the children's ward at the hospital and invites young users to help broken instruments find their groove again. They do this by participating in mini games which create pieces of music which can be combined through a portal room to create a more complex piece of music.

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Achievements and performance continued**

Once beta testing has been completed it is intended that the game be made available via The Apple Store (on a free download, if approval is granted) so that it can be played on iPads or smart phones around the hospital.

The digital work has been designed so that it is adaptable in terms of growth and easily reskinned so that it can reflect a wider range of hospitals. It can of course be played by any young person with access to a smart phone and iPad and access to the Apple Store.

### **Fundraising**

As was mentioned above, we failed in our bid to The National Lottery (£6,500) to fund the creative playdays, we also failed in bids (£5,000) to the Garfield Weston Foundation and (£5,000) to The Postcode Lottery Foundation and (£2,000) to the Rayne Foundation – all for core support and all turned down due to pressure on funds.

There are very clear indications that, as charities close due to the cost of living impact on their finances; close funding streams; refocus their funding towards frontline services; and as the pressure of application level to charities has grown exponentially (as pressures elsewhere in the funding system shift bids towards them) the chances of success are dwindling. Put simply there are far more arts organisations applying for funding from a shrinking number of Trusts and Foundations who give to the arts.

Our sector is under significant and prolonged pressure, particularly small organisations, experiencing:

- Limited funding growth
- Capacity challenges
- Structural inequality between large and small organisations

The economic outlook over the next five years does not look like this situation is likely to change for any organisation seeking Charitable funding but it is fair to say that the arts and heritage sectors are being hit particularly hard.

### **Financial review**

The net expenditure for the year was £19,949, including net expenditure of £7,882 on unrestricted funds and net expenditure of £12,067 on restricted funds.

### **Reserves policy**

Trustees consider that the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves held by Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah should be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 months expenditure. This is to allow the smooth operation of the charity and to sustain activity during any period of uncertainty. This currently equates to between £6,651 and £11,086 based on current overhead costs of £26,606 per annum. The reserves policy will be kept under review on an annual basis or if risks to the company change.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £15,056.

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 22/12/2025

Lauren Huxley (Trustee)

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 7 to 13.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

22/12/25

**West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO**

Stringer House  
34 Lupton Street  
Leeds  
LS10 2QW

**The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including summary income and expenditure account)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Grants and donations	(2)	-	69,687	69,687	20,000
Performance and workshop fees		10,600	-	10,600	-
Interest		667	-	667	1,261
<b>Total income</b>		<u>11,267</u>	<u>69,687</u>	<u>80,954</u>	<u>21,261</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Salaries NICs and pensions	(3)	8,023	5,900	13,923	13,924
Motor, travel and tour costs		-	-	-	725
Insurance		656	-	656	644
Telephone, internet and web support		1,632	-	1,632	971
Administrative costs		482	139	621	413
Advertising		-	3,160	3,160	3,654
Professional fees and consultancy		-	3,860	3,860	6,958
Production costs		8,000	68,197	76,197	9,172
Independent examination		720	-	720	720
Legal and governance		34	-	34	1,221
Bad debts		-	-	-	1,250
Depreciation		100	-	100	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>19,647</u>	<u>81,256</u>	<u>100,903</u>	<u>39,652</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<u>(8,380)</u>	<u>(11,569)</u>	<u>(19,949)</u>	<u>(18,391)</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	(4)	<u>498</u>	<u>(498)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(7,882)</u>	<u>(12,067)</u>	<u>(19,949)</u>	<u>(18,391)</u>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		<u>23,336</u>	<u>29,910</u>	<u>53,246</u>	<u>71,637</u>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	(4)	<u>15,454</u>	<u>17,843</u>	<u>33,297</u>	<u>53,246</u>

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.



# The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!

## Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2025

		2025	2025	2025	2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	(5)	398	-	398	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>398</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors and prepayments	(6)	2,375	4,996	7,371	271
Cash at bank and in hand	(7)	13,579	12,847	26,426	54,752
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>15,954</u>	<u>17,843</u>	<u>33,797</u>	<u>55,023</u>
<b>Current liabilities:</b>					
<b>amounts falling due within one year</b>					
Creditors and accruals	(8)	898	-	898	1,777
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>898</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>898</u>	<u>1,777</u>
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<u>15,056</u>	<u>17,843</u>	<u>32,899</u>	<u>53,246</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>15,454</u>	<u>17,843</u>	<u>33,297</u>	<u>53,246</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds		15,454	-	15,454	23,336
Restricted funds		-	17,843	17,843	29,910
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>15,454</u>	<u>17,843</u>	<u>33,297</u>	<u>53,246</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 22/12/2025

Lauren Huxley (Trustee)

# **The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**

## **Notes to the accounts**

### **for the year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Basis of accounting**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

##### **Going concern**

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

##### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

##### **Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

##### **Expenditure and liabilities**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

##### **Taxation**

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Fixtures and fittings and equipment: over 5 years

##### **Pensions**

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

# The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!

## Notes to the accounts continued

### for the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 2 Grants and donations

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Arts Council England (ACE)	-	49,967	49,967	-
SW Yorkshire Partnership NHS	-	18,820	18,820	20,000
City of Bradford MDC	-	900	900	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>69,687</u>	<u>69,687</u>	<u>20,000</u>

#### 3 Staff costs and numbers

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross salaries	13,699	13,700
Social security costs	725	635
Employment allowance	(725)	(635)
Pensions	224	224
	<u>13,923</u>	<u>13,924</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 1, being an average of 0.4 full time equivalent (2024: 1, 0.4 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

#### Defined contribution pension scheme

	2025 £	2024 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	224	224
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	44	44

#### 4 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
SW Yorkshire P/ship NHS	29,910	18,820	30,389	(498)	17,843
Arts Council England	-	49,967	49,967	-	-
City of Bradford MDC	-	900	900	-	-
	<u>29,910</u>	<u>69,687</u>	<u>81,256</u>	<u>(498)</u>	<u>17,843</u>

#### Fund name

SW Yorkshire P/ship NHS

Arts Council England

City of Bradford MDC

#### Purpose of restriction

Towards the Heartbeats project. The transfer relates to the purchase of fixed assets for the general purposes of the charity.

Towards the Hidden Garden project.

Towards the Hidden Garden project.

**The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**5 Tangible assets**

**Cost**

At 1 April 2024  
Additions  
At 31 March 2025

Fixtures  
and fittings

£

3,283

498

3,781

Total

£

3,283

498

3,781

**Depreciation**

At 1 April 2024  
Charge for year  
At 31 March 2025

3,283

100

3,383

3,283

100

3,383

**Net book value**

At 31 March 2025

398

398

At 31 March 2024

-

-

**6 Debtors and prepayments**

Debtors  
Prepayments

2025

£

7,096

275

7,371

2024

£

-

271

271

**7 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank

2025

£

26,426

26,426

2024

£

54,752

54,752

**8 Creditors and accruals**

Creditors  
Accruals  
Taxation and social security  
Other creditors

2025

£

108

720

26

44

898

2024

£

985

720

28

44

1,777

**The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**9 Related party transactions**

**Trustee expenses**

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

**Trustee remuneration and benefits**

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

**Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel**

The total employee benefits received by key management personnel were £14,649 (previous year: £14,559).

# The Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah!

## Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds (including summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>Income</b>						
Grants and donations	-	-	69,687	20,000	69,687	20,000
Performance and workshop fees	10,600	-	-	-	10,600	-
Interest	667	1,261	-	-	667	1,261
<b>Total income</b>	<b>11,267</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>69,687</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>80,954</b>	<b>21,261</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Salaries NICs and pensions	8,023	13,924	5,900	-	13,923	13,924
Motor, travel and tour costs	-	128	-	597	-	725
Insurance	656	644	-	-	656	644
Phone, internet and web support	1,632	971	-	-	1,632	971
Administrative costs	482	413	139	-	621	413
Advertising	-	3,474	3,160	180	3,160	3,654
Professional fees and consultancy	-	6,958	3,860	-	3,860	6,958
Production costs	8,000	534	68,197	8,638	76,197	9,172
Independent examination	720	720	-	-	720	720
Legal and governance	34	1,221	-	-	34	1,221
Bad debts	-	1,250	-	-	-	1,250
Depreciation	100	-	-	-	100	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>19,647</b>	<b>30,237</b>	<b>81,256</b>	<b>9,415</b>	<b>100,903</b>	<b>39,652</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>	<b>(8,380)</b>	<b>(28,976)</b>	<b>(11,569)</b>	<b>10,585</b>	<b>(19,949)</b>	<b>(18,391)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(498)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(7,882)</b>	<b>(28,976)</b>	<b>(12,067)</b>	<b>10,585</b>	<b>(19,949)</b>	<b>(18,391)</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>	<b>23,336</b>	<b>52,312</b>	<b>29,910</b>	<b>19,325</b>	<b>53,246</b>	<b>71,637</b>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>15,454</b>	<b>23,336</b>	<b>17,843</b>	<b>29,910</b>	<b>33,297</b>	<b>53,246</b>